scope to work as full-fledged universities, while keeping intact their unique features, which shall act as pace-setting and model governance systems for all universities;

(xii) One of the first tasks of the NCHER should be to identify the best 1,500 colleges across India to upgrade them as universities, and create clusters of other potentially good colleges to evolve as universities;

(xiii) Universities should establish live relationship with the real world outside and develop capacities to respond to the challenges faced by rural and urban economies and culture;

(xiv) All levels of teacher education should be brought under the purview of higher education;

(xv) A national testing scheme for admission to the universities on the pattern of the Graduate Record Examination (GRE) should be evolved which would be open to all the aspirants of University education, to be held more than once a year. Students would be permitted to send their best test score to the university of their choice;

(xvi) Quantum of Central financial support to State-funded universities should be enhanced substantially on an incentive pattern, keeping in view the needs for their growth;

(xvii) Expansion of the higher education system should be evaluated and assessed continuously to excel and to respond to the needs of different regions in India in order to ensure not only equity and access but also quality and opportunity of growth along academic vertical. The NCHER too should be subject to external review once in five years.

(xviii) A National Education Tribunal should be established with powers to adjudicate on disputes among stake-holders within institutions and between institutions so as to reduce litigation in courts involving universities and higher education institutions;

(xix) A Task Force should be set up to follow up on the implementation of the recommended Agenda for Action within a definite time-frame.

Objectives of Operation Black Board

1105. SHRI BHAGAT SINGH KOSHYARI:
SHRI PRABHAT JHA:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the latest status of Operation Black Board scheme;

(b) whether Government has discontinued the said scheme or it has been clubbed with any other scheme;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether Government has achieved the target of the Operation Black Board scheme;

(e) if so, the details thereof and total amount provided by Government for the scheme, State-wise and the amount utilized out of it; and

(f) if not, reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (f) The Plan scheme of 'Operation Black Board' (OBB) ended in the year 2001-02.

The OBB scheme had three interdependent components, namely provision of (i) a building comprising two all weather rooms with separate toilets for boys and girls, (ii) two teachers in every school, (iii) essential teaching learning material. Funds for construction of school buildings were provided mainly from rural development schemes. Funds for other components were provided by the Department of Education. The State- wise funds released and utilized is at Statement.

Statement

State-wise funds released and utilized under the scheme of operation black board from 1987-88 to 2001-02

(Rs. In lakhs)

Sl.No.	Name of State/UT	Funds Released	Funds Utilised
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	36717.02	31104.69
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	1002.12	1002.12
3.	Assam	17364.43	14671.44
4.	Bihar	21300.54	16153.88
5.	Goa	274.51	274.51
6.	Gujarat	9682.98	9654.50
7.	Haryana	1316.64	856.64
8.	Himachal Pradesh	4980.73	4980.73
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	6237.89	6090.47
10.	Karnataka	57665.41	56879.43
11.	Kerala	1691.89	1691.89
12.	Madhya Pradesh	33554.21	32461.71
13.	Maharashtra	33182.01	32833.95
14.	Manipur	457.00	276.80
15.	Meghalaya	2730.32	2725.52

1	2	3	4
16.	Mizoram	861.12	861.12
17.	Nagaland	324.11	324.11
18.	Orissa	25950.96	21757.38
19.	Punjab	7219.24	7218.96
20.	Rajasthan	26000.91	25616.70
21.	Sikkim	124.66	124.10
22.	Tamil Nadu	10011.44	9176.66
23.	Tripura	1393.32	1393.32
24.	Uttar Pradesh	40813.40	40813.40
25.	West Bengal	11059.08	10803.08
26.	A. & N. Islands	30.09	12.09
27.	Chandigarh	1.17	1.17
28.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	36.46	17.96
29.	Delhi	427.83	373.84
30.	Daman and Diu	21.44	19.68
31.	Lakshadweep	2.48	2.47
32.	Pondicherry	178.12	177.77
33.	Uttranchal	2566.34	2566.34
34.	Jharkhand	0.00	0.00
35.	Chhattisgarh	0.00	0.00
	TOTAL	355179.87	332918.44

Acceptance of Yashpal Committee recommendations

1106. DR. (SHRIMATI) NAJMA A. HEPTULLA:
SHRI MAHENDRA MOHAN:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that Yashpal Committee has made certain recommendations regarding higher education;

(b) if so, the details of these recommendations;

(c) whether Government has accepted those recommendations;

(d) if so, whether recommendations made by Knowledge Commission will also be taken into consideration; and